Amendment

The following lists the status of each claim of the application:

1. (original) A vessel comprising:

    a. an inlet;

    b. an outlet;

    c. a cover having a periphery; and

    d. a cap assembly surrounding at least a portion of the periphery so that, in use, loading of the cover occurs principally at the periphery.

2. (original) A vessel according to claim 1 in which the cover comprises a flange forming the periphery.

3. (original) A vessel according to claim 2 in which the cover further comprises a central region bounded by the flange and a first wall extending from the central region.

4. (original) A vessel according to claim 3 further comprising a base and a second wall extending from the base.

5. (original) A vessel according to claim 1 in which the cap assembly comprises:

    a. a ring; and

b. a cap connected to or integrally formed with the ring.

6. (original) A vessel according to claim 4 in which the cap assembly comprises a jack ring and a cap connected to or integrally formed with the jack ring, the jack ring having threads complementary to the threads of the second wall to permit attachment of the jack ring to the second wall.

7. (original) A vessel according to claim 6 in which the jack ring and cap are connected together in a manner permitting detachment thereof.

8. (original) A vessel according to claim 7 defining an interior volume in which water-purification or -filtration material is positioned.

9. (original) A vessel according to claim 8 in which the cap assembly comprises:

a. a jack ring defining a ledge; and

b. a cap connected to or integrally formed with the jack ring; and

in which the cover contacts the ledge.

10. (original) A vessel according to claim 1 in which the cover has a ridged upper surface.

11. (original) A vessel according to claim 1 further comprising a sealing ring and in which (i) the cap assembly comprises a jack ring and (ii) the cover comprises a first wall having a groove adapted to receive the sealing ring such that the sealing ring is accessible immediately for inspection or removal when the cap assembly is removed from the vessel.

12. (original) A vessel through which pressurized water flows, the vessel comprising:

a. a base;

b. a generally-cylindrical wall extending upward from the base and having an interior surface and a threaded exterior surface;

c. a jack ring defining an interior surface having threads adapted to engage the threads of the exterior surface of the generally-cylindrical wall and comprising a ledge;

d. a cap connected to or integrally formed with the jack ring;

e. a cover comprising a peripheral flanged portion, a central portion, and a wall extending from the central portion, the peripheral flanged portion sandwiched between the cap and jack ring in contact with the ledge so that loading of the cover occurs principally at the peripheral flanged portion, the

wall friction-fitted into contact with the generally-cylindrical wall when the threads of the jack ring engage the threads of the generally-cylindrical wall, and the wall defining a groove;

f. an o-ring positioned in the groove; and

g. water-purification material contained within the generally-cylindrical wall.

13. (new) A vessel according to claim 4 in which the second wall is tapered.